



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

October 2, 2003

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors  
Nonpublic School Superintendents  
Elementary School Principals  
Mathematics and Science Centers

FROM: Tom Watkins

SUBJECT: Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

You and I know that great things are happening in Michigan schools every day. Every year, we have the opportunity, through the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), to call attention to some of the outstanding teachers who work with our students.

The State Board of Education and I encourage you to bring this recognition and the monetary award to your teachers and schools. Nomination information for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is now available on the PAEMST web site at: [www.nsf.gov/pa](http://www.nsf.gov/pa)

I encourage you to access this site to learn how to nominate excellent elementary mathematics and science teachers for this award.

Highlights of the Award include:

- The 2004 award cycle is for teachers of grades K-6 mathematics and science.
- The Presidential Award includes:
  - A **\$10,000** National Science Foundation grant **made directly to the awardee to be spent at her/his discretion.**
  - An expenses-paid trip for the awardee and a guest to Washington, D.C. to attend an awards ceremony; to receive a Presidential Citation; and to meet with leaders in government and education.
- **Teachers must be nominated** for the award. A supervisor, principal, teacher colleague, parent, student, or member of the general public may nominate teachers. Teachers may no longer self-nominate, but are required to complete the application.

- Nominees are **required to submit a videotaped lesson** as part of the application process.
- Completed applications for the award, **postmarked by May 1, 2004**, should be sent to:

Ms. Jean Shane  
Michigan Department of Education  
P.O. Box 30008  
Lansing, MI 48909

I would also encourage you to place a link on your school/district's web site to the PAEMST web site noted above and include information about the award in your school newsletters and faculty bulletins.

For additional information, please consult the PAEMST website. Questions may also be directed to Jean Shane at [shanej@mi.gov](mailto:shanej@mi.gov) or 517.241.2375.

Please consider nominating the excellent elementary mathematics and science teachers you know for this prestigious award.